Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 AID-05
OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ABF-01 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02
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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
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AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PFOR, SREF, UNRWA, XF
SUBJECT:UNRWA FINANCING
REF: BEIRUT 8150
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1. CHECK FOR FINAL \$6 MILLION SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO

UNRWA IS NOW AT USUN. WE WOULD LIKE TO USE PUBLICITY FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION IN BOTH BEIRUT AND NEW YORK TO BRING HOME TO UN MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY ARABS, MAJOR EFFORT, MUCH LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER DONOR, WHICH US HAS MADE TO REDUCE UNRWA'S DEFICIT IN 1975.

- 2. FOR BEIRUT: IF SECURITY SITUATION WILL PERMIT, EMBASSY SHOULD CARRY OUT EXCELLENT SCENARIO PARAS 2 AND 3 REFTEL. SUGGEST USIA PRESS RELEASE CONSIST OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS ALONG LINES PARA 5 BELOW PLUS RESPONSE BY COMGEN RENNIE. BEIRUT PUBLICITY TARGET IS ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND PUBLIC OPINION.
- 3. FOR USUN: DEPT HOPES THAT AMBASSADOR BENNETT WILL BE ABLE PARTICIPATE BRIEF CEREMONY IN HIS OFFICE OF PRESENTING CHECK TO UNRWA LIAISON OFFICE CHIEF VAN WIJK. SUBJECT TO USUN'S DISCRETION, PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SECRETARIAT AND WG ON UNRWA FINANCES MIGHT ALSO BE APPROPRIATE. CEREMONY SHOULD HAVE PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. WE WANT THIS COVERAGE TO REACH BOTH POTENTIAL DONORS OF ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA, ESPECIALLY ARABS, THROUGH UN CHANNELS AND LOCAL REPS FOREIGN PRESS, AND, TO MODEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, US PUBLIC OPINION. USUN SHOULD ISSUE OWN PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWING CEREMONY AND ARRANGE FOR UN RELEASE AS WELL.
- 4. TIMING. BEIRUT AND USUN EVENTS SHOULD OCCUR AS CLOSE TOGETHER AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY ON SAME DAY. SUGGEST BEIRUT PROVIDE TO USUN CHOICE OF THREE EARLIEST DATES POSSIBLE FOR EMBASSY.
- 5. SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR AMBASSADORS' STATEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES:

"THIS \$6 MILLION COMPLETES THE DONATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF \$16 MILLION IN SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA IN 1975. THESE AMOUNTS, WHICH ARE IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR \$23.2 MILLION US CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA FOR 1975, WERE AUTHORIZED BY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AT ITS OWN INITIATIVE IN RESPONSE TO TESTIMONY BEFORE CONFIDENTIAL

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ITS COMMITTEES BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON UNRWA'S CRITICAL FINANCIAL DEFICIT. THAT DEFICIT WAS REDUCED BY 40, FROM \$40 MILLION TO \$24 MILLION, BY THESE CONTRIBUTIONS.

"THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT UNRWA'S HUMANI-TARIAN WORK, ALTHOUGH AMPLY JUSTIFIED BY ITS VERY NATURE, IS ALSO ESSENTIAL TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN SUPPORT OF THIS CONVICTION, THE UNITED STATES HAS CONTRIBUTED, FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNRWA THROUGH JUNE 30, 1974, A TOTAL OF ALMOST \$581 MILLION, OR ABOUT 58 OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY GOVERNMENTS IN THAT PERIOD.

"UNRWA HAS CARRIED OUT ITS PROGRAM FOR 25 YEARS WITH REMARKABLE ADMINISTRATIVE AUSTERITY AND GREAT EFFICIENCY. IT HAS, HOWEVER, INESCAPABLY FELT THE EFFECTS OF WORLD-WIDE INFLATION. THE PRESSING HUMAN NEED FOR UNRWA'S SERVICES REMAINS; UNRWA STANDS READY TO MEET THESE NEEDS WITH ITS CHARACTERISTIC SKILL AND EFFICIENCY IF THE NECESSARY FUNDS CAN BE FOUND.

"THE UNITED STATES URGES OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WHO HAVE NOT YET CONTRIBUTED IN PROPORTION TO THEIR RESOURCES, TO JOIN IT IN PROVIDING THOSE FUNDS FOR THAT VITAL WORK."

6. DEPT. WELCOMES BEIRUT AND USUN SUGGESTIONS ON TEXT PARA 5 AND ON DESIRABILITY USING IT IN VOA ARABIC AND WORLD-WIDE ENGLISH BROADCASTS. INGERSOLL

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